

FILE

APR 23 2 22 PM '85

CLERK OF COURT  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
BY DEPUTY CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

In the matter of )  
 ) GENERAL ORDER  
DIVISION OF COURT BUSINESS )

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 28, United States Code, Section 137, it is hereby agreed and ordered by the undersigned active Judges of this Court that the division of this Court's business among said Judges shall be as hereinafter stated:

1. As used herein:

A. Civil cases include bankruptcy appeals, habeas corpus petitions, and contested miscellaneous matters, but excludes Section 2255 motions and other similar cases described in paragraph 8.

B. Criminal cases include appeals from magistrates and all proceedings under Rules 7, 20 and 40, FRCP.

2. All civil cases filed in this district shall be assigned as follows:

-- All civil cases filed at Tacoma to Judge Jack E. Tanner.

-- All other civil cases filed at Seattle equally to Judges Walter T. McGovern, Donald S. Voorhees, Barbara J. Rothstein, John C. Coughenour, and Carolyn R. Dimmick.

3. All criminal cases filed in this district shall be assigned as follows:

-- All criminal cases at Tacoma to Judge Jack E. Tanner.

-- All criminal cases at Seattle equally to Judges Walter T. McGovern, Donald S. Voorhees, Barbara J. Rothstein, John C. Coughenour, and Carolyn R. Dimmick.

4. All naturalization proceedings at Tacoma, including contested petitions, shall be handled by Judge Jack E. Tanner.

5. Judge Carolyn R. Dimmick shall be responsible for the call and qualification of petit jurors.

6. Judge Barbara J. Rothstein shall be responsible for all issues involving the jury selection process.

7. Judge John C. Coughenour shall be responsible for all naturalization proceedings at Seattle, including contested petitions.

8. Judge Donald S. Voorhees shall be responsible for all claims for wages and effects of deceased and deserting seamen; and unassigned ex parte matters.

9. Individual petitions for admission to the bar of this

1 Court may be heard by any Judge or Magistrate of this Court.  
2 Group admissions pursuant to local rule shall be held at times  
3 fixed by the Clerk.

4 10. Proceedings under Section 2255, Title 28, United States  
5 Code, shall be assigned to and handled by the Judge who imposed  
6 the sentence involved.

7 11. If immediate action is necessary in any case or  
8 proceeding assigned to a particular Judge and that Judge is  
9 unavailable for any reason, any other Judge may hear and dispose  
10 of the matter requiring immediate attention, but such action shall  
11 not constitute reassignment of the case or proceeding.

12 12. A. When civil or criminal actions involving a common  
13 question of law and fact (but not necessarily the same parties)  
14 are assigned to different Judges and it appears to any Judge of  
15 this Court that there may be good reason to assign all of said  
16 actions to one Judge, such may be assigned to the Judge to whom  
17 the case bearing the earliest filing date was assigned, at his  
18 option.

19 B. Motions to consolidate civil or criminal actions for  
20 trial, or otherwise, shall be heard by the Judge to whom the case  
21 bearing the earliest filing date has been assigned, and in the  
22 event consolidation is ordered, the consolidated cases shall be  
23 heard by said Judge.

24 13. The reassignment of a case necessitated by the  
25 disqualification of a Judge shall be to the Judge to whom the next

1 case filed would have been assigned; the Judge who has  
2 disqualified himself/herself shall be assigned an additional case  
3 the next time his/her name is reached in the assignment wheel.

4 14. The assignment of all civil and criminal cases as above  
5 noted is made subject to such change or changes as may be  
6 established by the Chief Judge for purposes of equalization of  
7 case assignments to all active Judges of the district.

8 15. The Clerk shall refer any matter or proceeding not  
9 provided for under this division of business order to the Chief  
10 Judge for assignment or disposition.

11 16. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, each of the  
12 Judges of this Court shall have and perform any and all acts of  
13 authority and duty otherwise by law conferred upon him or her to  
14 hear, try and dispose of any and all of the cases, matters and  
15 business of this Court when he or she consents to do so.

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26 GENERAL ORDER

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17. All conflicting orders concerning the division of this Court's business heretofore entered are vacated by this order. This order shall be effective immediately and remain in force until rescinded.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 1985.

Walter T. McGovern  
Honorable Walter T. McGovern  
Chief United States District Judge

Donald S. Voorhees  
Honorable Donald S. Voorhees  
United States District Judge

Jack E. Tanner  
Honorable Jack E. Tanner  
United States District Judge

Barbara J. Rothstein  
Honorable Barbara J. Rothstein  
United States District Judge

John C. Coughenour  
Honorable John C. Coughenour  
United States District Judge

Carolyn R. Dimmick  
Honorable Carolyn R. Dimmick  
United States District Judge